

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 8, 2011

Re: Docket # 11-65

Members of the Commission:

As a retired schoolteacher who currently sits on the local board of education in the city of Victoria, Kansas, I am very focused on ensuring that our young people have access to the same educational opportunities that students from other areas of our state and country have at their disposal.

Information and communications technology are increasingly driving what and how students learn, and while this provides a world of opportunity, it also threatens to create an uneven playing field for small, rural communities like Victoria. Often, such communities do not have access to the same type of communications infrastructure and technology as more urban areas.

The proposed merger of T-Mobile USA and AT&T would level the playing field, expanding access to high-speed wireless broadband service to Victoria and towns like it across the country. In fact, the merger would expand access to over 97 percent of the country. Should this merger not be approved, however, Victoria would likely not receive this technology any time soon, meaning that our students – not to mention our teachers, small businesses, farmers, and health care providers – would not have access to the same technology as many other communities.

I hope that Victoria will gain access to high-speed wireless broadband because I want every child that sits in one of our classrooms to have the same educational opportunity as a child in Wichita, Kansas City, or anywhere else in the country. By approving the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile, you can ensure that this will happen, so I strongly urge you to do so.

Sincerely,



Patrick Scott
Victoria, Kansas

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn